

**REMARKS**

With the foregoing, claims 1-6, 8-16, 21, 22, 24-32 are pending and at issue in the above-identified patent application. The remaining claims have been canceled without prejudice. Of the claims at issue, claims 1, 8, 9, 10, 11, 21, 29, 30, and 31 are independent. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

The examiner has deemed claims 7-11, 18, and 23-31 as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, the applicants have amended the claims as follows:

Claim 1 now includes all the limitations of claim 7;

Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form;

Claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form;

Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form;

Claim 11 has been rewritten in independent form;

Claim 18 has been canceled without prejudice;

Claim 21 now includes all the limitations of claim 23;

Claim 24 now depends from claim 21;

Claim 25 now depends from claim 21;

Claim 26 now depends from claim 21;

Claim 27 now depends from claim 21;

Claim 28 now depends from claim 21;

Claim 29 has been rewritten in independent form;

Claim 30 has been rewritten in independent form; and

Claim 31 has been rewritten in independent form.

**Conclusion**

Reconsideration of the application and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

If there is any matter that the examiner would like to discuss, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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